

were significant to certain individuals, but, when compared by this method these items assume a greater apparent importance in the overall diet than is actually the case. Cyprinodontid fishes, cirrolanid isopods, pentatomid bugs, gomphid dragonfly nymphs, belostomatid bugs, dytiscid beetle larvae, and grasshoppers were each found in only two stomachs at most. These food groups were singularly important only to a few individuals in which a single item frequently comprised a large percentage of the individual volume in stomachs otherwise nearly lacking any other food.

Little can be said regarding seasonal fluctuations in food habits of *T. coahuila* because turtles were collected only in late summer and spring. Frequency of occurrence, combined with the mean of the individual volume percentages for the July-August sample vs. the April sample show the relative prominence of the various foods in the diet. Curculionid and hydrophilid beetles were present in far greater numbers in turtles taken in summer than in spring specimens. Ants were absent in individuals taken in spring, but caddisfly larvae and midge larvae appeared more frequently in the spring sample. Stratiomyid larvae occurred in more spring than in summer specimens, but made up less of the stomach volume in spring.

More turtles in April had eaten large quantities of *Eleocharis*, principally the seed heads. Intestines of four individuals were packed with several hundred *Eleocharis* seeds. Barton and Price (1955) similarly found a large number of *Carex* seeds in 11 *Clemmys muhlenbergi* they examined from Pennsylvania.

Five individuals were collected in large, relatively deep (15-30 cm) pools near Río Mesquites (Fig. 6). Of these, three had eaten one fish each; two *Cyprinodon atrorus* and one *Gambusia marshi*. These were the only fish found in the entire sample of 48 turtles. These and other fish species were abundant in river pools where foraging box turtles were often seen. In December 1964 at Posos de la Becerra, Walter K. Taylor saw a male on land feeding on a dead cichlid fish, *Cichlasoma* sp. Although Williams (1960) watched a captive *T. coahuila* capture a live fish in shallow water, most fishes the turtles eat probably are dead or dying. Only two regularly visited marshes contained fishes: *Gambusia marshi* and *G. longispinis* in marsh 11; and *G. marshi*, *G. longispinis*, *Cyprinodon bifasciatus*, and *Cichlasoma* spp. in marsh N-3. Two turtles from marsh 11 preserved in July 1965 contained no trace of fishes.

On several occasions *T. coahuila* were observed foraging in pools along the river and in marshes while many small fishes (*Gambusia* and *Cyprinodon*) swam nearby, seemingly within their reach, but the turtles